



U.S. Department of Justice

Campaign Financing Task Force  
Criminal Division

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January 25, 1999

VIA FACSIMILE and U.S. MAIL

Lois G. Lerner, Esq.  
Associate General Counsel  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
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Washington, D.C. 20468

RECEIVED  
FEDERAL ELECTION  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF GENERAL  
COUNSEL

JAN 27 3 02 PM '99

RE: Future Tech International Inc. et. al. (PRE-MUR 358)

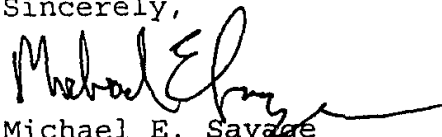
Dear Ms Lerner:

This is to refer the related cases of Future Tech International Inc. ("FTI"), Louis Leonardo, Juan Ortiz, and Gregorio Narvasa to the Commission for its administrative action.

As you know, the Campaign Financing Task Force has conducted an investigation into numerous violations of the federal campaign financing laws by FTI, its Chief Executive Officer, Mark Jimenez, and several other senior officers of FTI. In October 1998, a federal grand jury returned an indictment against Mark Jimenez alleging, in part, a conspiracy to impair and impede the Commission's enforcement of the federal election laws. Mark Jimenez is presently a fugitive believed to be living in the Philippines. On December 21, 1998, FTI entered into a plea agreement with the Department of Justice in which it would plead guilty to two felony violations of the federal tax laws arising from its willful and fraudulent deduction of a \$100,000 contribution to the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and its payroll reimbursement of employees' contributions to various candidates for federal office. On January 5, 1999, Juan Ortiz, FTI's Chief Financial Officer, pleaded guilty to a single violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441(f) resulting from his actions to reimburse campaign contributions at the direction of Mark Jimenez. As part of these plea agreements, the Justice Department will forebear further criminal prosecution of Ortiz and certain FTI officers so long as they cooperate fully in the government's continuing investigation of Mark Jimenez and others. Nothing in these agreements, however, preclude appropriate administrative action by the Commission.

Ms. Lois G. Lerner, Esq.  
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Sincerely,

  
Michael E. Savage  
Trial Attorney

CC: Eric Bloom, Esq.